

CLAIMS

04 -12- 2000

1. An arrangement in the unloading and loading end of a multi-section glass bending furnace, especially in such a furnace, where the glass sheets (9), (10) travel along a special rail (3), (4) from one furnace section to the next section in mould carriages (8) moving in cycles on the said rail, the rail being arranged to circulate through the bending section and to return to the loading and unloading end, characterized in that

- for loading and unloading operations in carriage (8) locating mould with the bent glass (10) resting on it is shifted from rail (4) over to the first side station and from the second side station the mould including the glass sheet(9) is shifted over into said carriage, while the carriage keeps moving forward on rail (4),
- the first and second side station are located on different sides of lift section (1) and in each side station the bent glass sheet (10) is removed from the mould and a new glass sheet (9) is mounted into the mould, and that
- a mould transmitter (5);(6) in both side stations collects the moulds from one and the same loading section (1) and returns the moulds to the same section.

2. An arrangement according to claim 1 characterized in that the number of moulds is greater than the number of mould carriages (8).

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3. An arrangement according to claims 1 and 2 characterized in that the moulds are collected with the transmitters from lower part (4) of lift section (1) and returned there.

4. An arrangement according to any of the previous claims 1 - 3 characterized in that to lift section (10) of lower rail(4) the mould carriage (8) is guided from the former section 2a by means of separate steering regardless of the transmission cycle of other carriages.

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5. An arrangement according to any of the previous claims 1 - 3 characterized in that to lift section (1) of lower rail(4) the mould carriages (8) are guided from former section (2a) and the preceding section (2b) by means of separate steering regardless of the transmission cycle of other carriages.

6. An arrangement according to any of the previous claims 1 - 5 characterized in that each mould in its turn is moved off rail (4) in the furnace for a substantially longer time than the duration of one cycle of the said rail.